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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

LAUNCH COMPLEXES A AND B AND CENTRAL SUPPORT FACILITY TYURA TAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR

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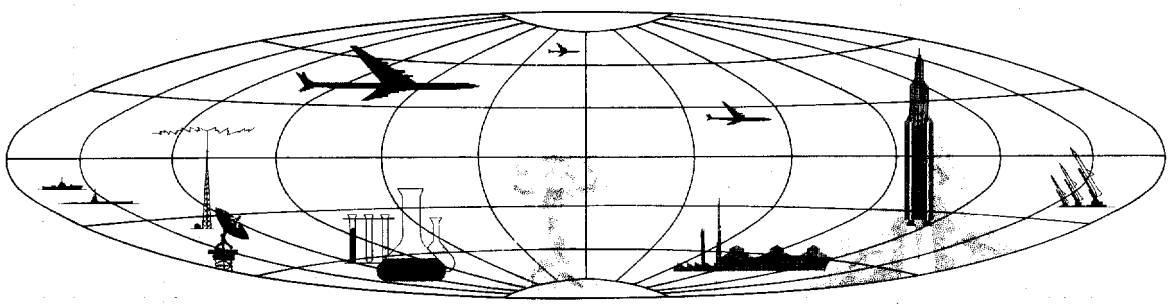

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LAUNCH COMPLEXES A AND B AND CENTRAL SUPPORT FACILITY TYURA TAM MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR

INTRODUCTION

This report is one of a series which provides a reanalysis of the rangehead at the Tyura Tam Missile Test Center (TTMTC). It concerns Launch Complexes A and B, the Central Support Facility, and new construction activity east and west of Complex A (Figure 1). Of particular interest are the probable guidance and electronics facilities associated with Complex A, the probable guidance facility and the new building construction at Complex B, and the new rail and road construction east and west of Complex A. All previous coverages of the rangehead were reexamined, but the report is based primarily on photography of [redacted] 25X1D [redacted] 25X1D

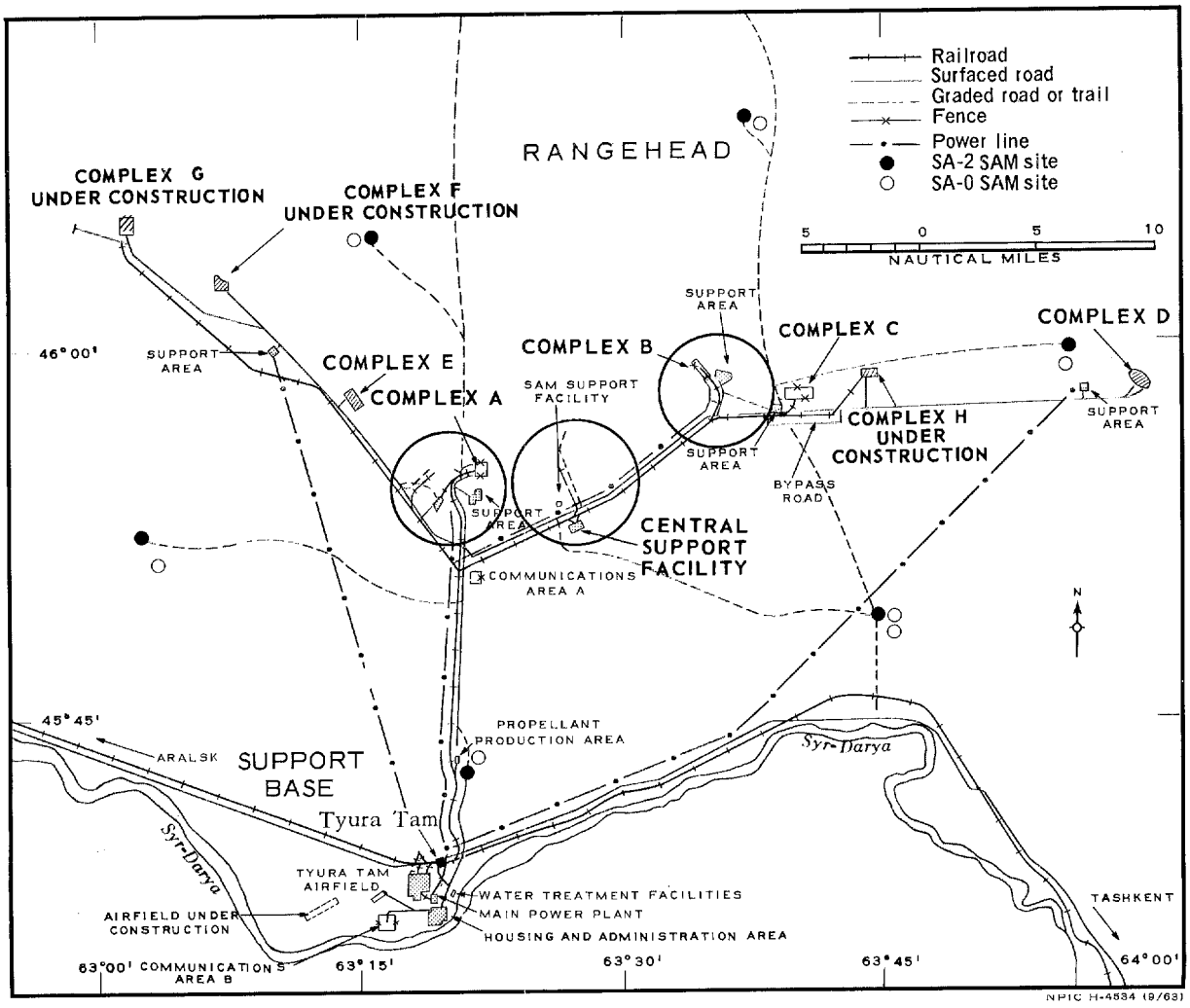

FIGURE 1. TYURA TAM MISSILE TEST CENTER.

NPIC/R-227/63

LAUNCH COMPLEX A

The launch area at Launch Complex A (45-54N 63-20E) was expanded 1,300 feet northward to include pad A2 sometime between [redacted] 25X1D 25X1D 25X1D 25X1D 25X1D Pad A2 appeared complete in [redacted] and very few changes have been made at the complex (Figure 2) since then. The launch tower at pad A1 has been examined repeatedly on available TALENT and KEYHOLE photography to achieve a more detailed analysis of its size and configuration, but shadow and poor image quality have precluded determination of additional details. Numerous probable rail cars have been observed near the launch pads, but the small scale of the photography has precluded positive determination of their size and type. 1/ 2/ 3/ 4/

The launch pads appear to be separated by at least one fenceline on the photography of [redacted] 25X1D Pad A2 measures approximately 150 feet square and is served by three probable rail spurs and a road. A structure is located on the north side of the pad, and another on the south side. The distance between the structures is 165 to 180 feet, which is approximately the same as the distance between the two larger structures on either side of pad E3 at Launch Complex E. Pad A2 may have been the forerunner of Complex E and the deployed Type IIC ICBM sites. This conclusion is supported by similarities between the electronics facilities associated with Complex A and counterpart facilities to the rear of the pads at Complex E.

An L-shaped probable guidance facility, located approximately 3,000 feet west of pad A2, was present on photography of [redacted] 25X1D 25X1D 25X1D and removed sometime prior to [redacted] The legs of the L configuration, with an unidentified structure at each extremity, measured approximately 250 feet. A rectangular building with a probable dome was located at the vertex of the two legs. A line constructed between the extremities of the two legs would parallel the rail spurs and the sides of pad A2.

The large plus-configured interferometer about 4,000 feet west of pad A2 was first evident on photography of [redacted] but the entire facility could not be confirmed until [redacted] 25X1D 25X1D 25X1D. It is almost identical to the interferometer at Complex E, and has base legs approximately 1,200 feet long. One leg is parallel and the other is perpendicular to the rail spurs approaching pad A2.

The probable guidance facility about 5,000 feet west of pad A2 is peculiar to Complexes A and B at the TTMTC and the deployed Type I ICBM sites (Launch Points I-IV) at Plesetsk. 5/ It consists of three probable domes (or two domes flanking a central structure) on an oval pad, a long rectangular building, and two smaller buildings in a precisely surveyed pattern.

Other changes at Complex A since [redacted] 25X1D include two new identical structures in the instrumentation control center, seven new buildings on the east side of the support area, and construction of a road leading generally south from Assembly and Checkout Facility No 2. The two identical structures, probably added sometime between [redacted] 25X1D are about 800 feet apart and connected by a ground scar. A perpendicular to the scar would be oriented on an azimuth of 35 degrees, plus or minus 5 degrees. A second 250- by 50-foot building, adjacent to the east side of the large rectangular blacktop area, was constructed in the support area between [redacted] 25X1D 25X1D Two other large and four smaller buildings also were erected in the support area during

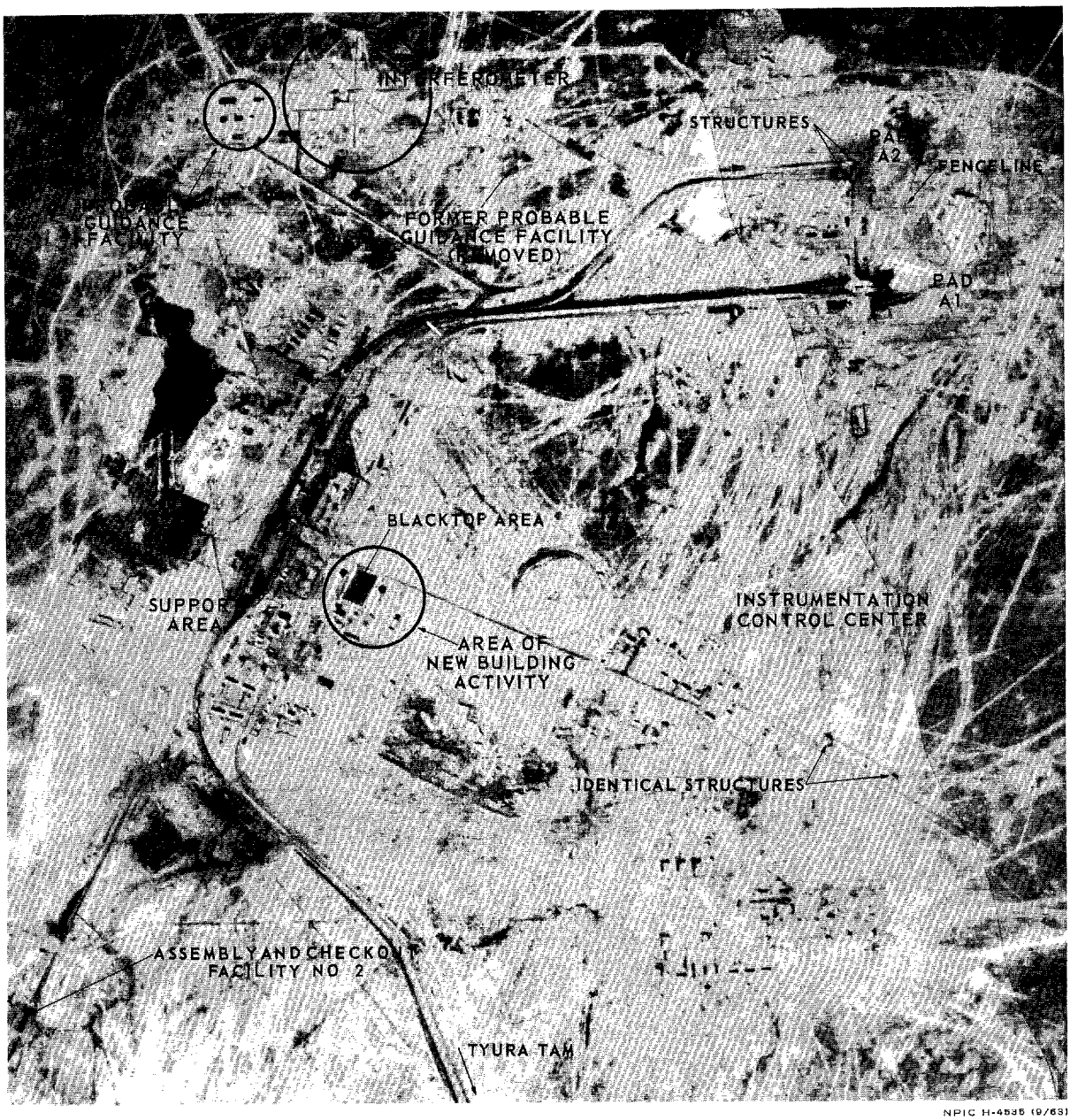

FIGURE 2. LAUNCH COMPLEX A, [redacted] 25X1D

this period. The road leading southward from Assembly and Checkout Facility No 2 was built 25X1D sometime between [redacted] 25X1D [redacted] It connects with the main road leading to Complexes E, F, and G, and may indicate an association of the assembly and checkout facility with one or more of these complexes.

NPIC/R-227/63

LAUNCH COMPLEX B

Launch Complex B (45-59N 63-33E) is located 10 nautical miles (nm) east-northeast of Launch Complex A. The complex (Figure 3) was observed in an early-to-midstage of construction on TALENT photography of [redacted] 25X1D and was essentially complete on KEYHOLE photography of [redacted] 25X1D

Additions to the complex since [redacted] 25X1D have consisted chiefly of building construction. Six buildings were added in the housing section of the support area between [redacted] 25X1D An additional 15 to 20 buildings have been erected in the housing section since [redacted] 25X1D Construction of a rail drive-in assembly and

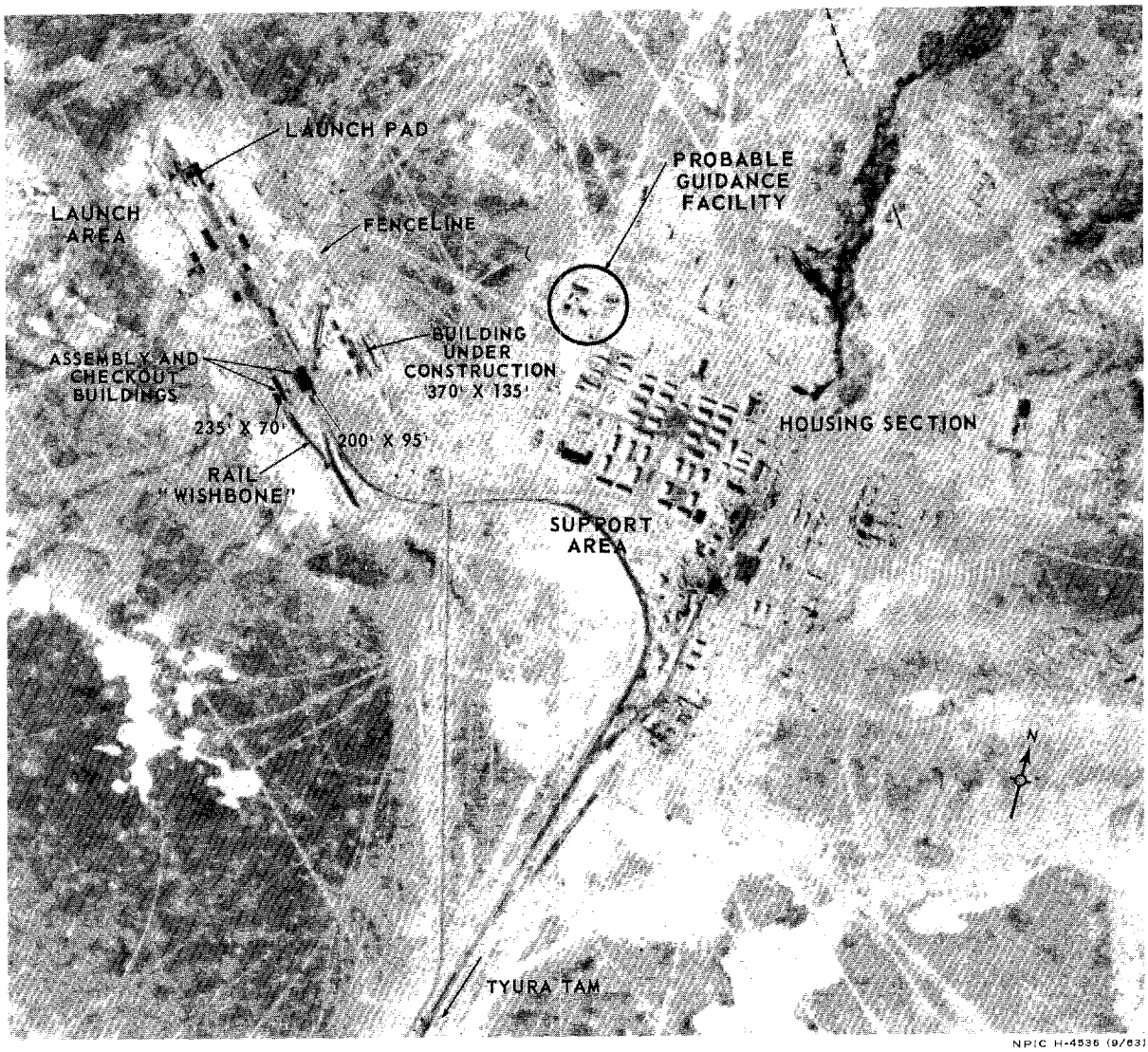

FIGURE 3. LAUNCH COMPLEX B, [redacted] 25X1D

checkout building in the launch area was started during the summer of [redacted] and completed sometime between [redacted] This building, measuring about 235 by 70 feet, is located at the terminus of the western branch of the rail "wishbone" configuration. The rail drive-through assembly and checkout building on the eastern branch of the "wishbone" configuration measures approximately 200 by 95 feet. Another large building, measuring 370 by 135 feet, is under construction inside the fenceline along the northeast side of the launch area. Construction was started sometime between [redacted] The building is road served, and rail service could be facilitated easily. Only two other buildings at the rangehead, one at Complex A and one at Complex G, are larger than this building.

The launch area at Complex B resembles the deployed Type I ICBM sites more closely than the launch area at Complex A does. Both complexes at the rangehead have the same type of probable guidance facility, although the orientations are different. The probable domes at Complex A are oriented on an azimuth of approximately 90 degrees, and are parallel to the other guidance components and the launch pad; those at Complex B are oriented on an azimuth of approximately [redacted] and have an angle [redacted] to the other guidance components. The launch pad at Complex B is oriented on an azimuth [redacted] All bearings are plus or minus 5 degrees. No counterparts to the abandoned L-shaped probable guidance facility or the plus-configured interferometer at Complex A can be identified at Complex B or at the deployed Type I ICBM sites (Launch Points I-IV) at Plesetsk.

CENTRAL SUPPORT FACILITY

The Central Support Facility (Figure 4), located at 45-52N 63-27E, has undergone very little change since [redacted] 3/ The most significant changes are the two rail drive-in buildings added between [redacted] and an additional rail spur inside the secured area. Poor image quality and the small scale of available photography preclude determination of the function of the secured area, but it is the only double-fenced area at the rangehead which apparently is not associated directly with the firing or handling of missiles. The borrow pits, inclined conveyer, and open storage space are still evident in the vicinity of the rail spurs serving the construction support area northwest of the secured area.

NEW CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Two areas of new construction activity have been identified at the TTMTC. One area, first observed on photography of [redacted] involves rail and road construction which originates northeast of the SAM Support Facility (Figure 5) and extends northward about 3 nm to a point (45-55N 63-26E) about midway between Launch Complexes A and B. Parallel lines of rail and roadbed construction, approximately 90 feet apart, can be discerned along the entire right-of-way, except at the southern end where the railbed construction approaches the main

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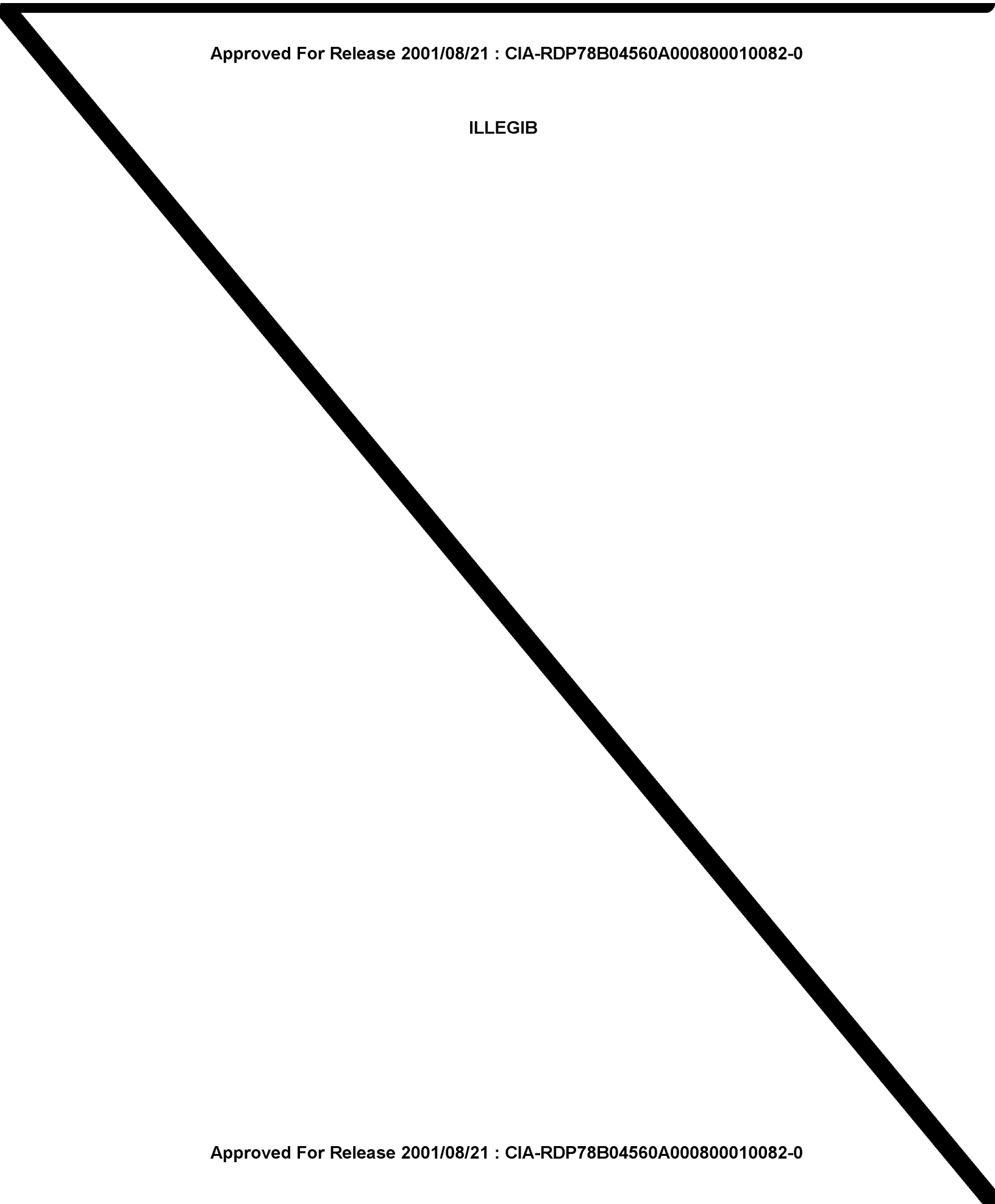

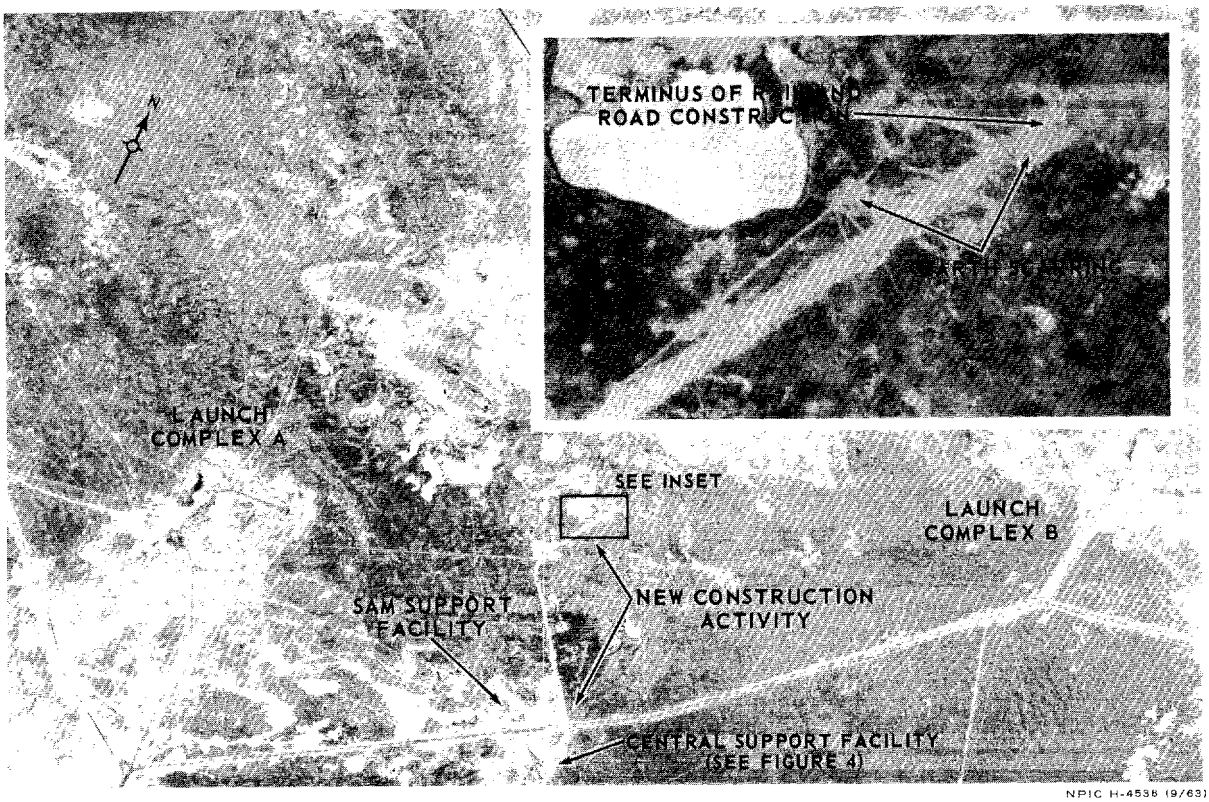

FIGURE 5. CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY EAST OF LAUNCH COMPLEX A, [redacted] 25X1D

25X1D

southwest of the northern terminus, and adjacent to the railbed, is a roughly circular area of earth scarring approximately 400 feet in diameter, with a moderate amount of track activity leading from it to the railbed and surrounding areas. There was no additional activity observed at or near the northern terminus on photography of [redacted] but the nature and location of the activity suggest that new missile launch facilities may be observed on subsequent photography. 25X1D

The other area of new construction activity (Figure 6), which also involves rail and road construction, was begun sometime between [redacted] It extends northeastward 2 nm from a point 3.5 nm southeast of Launch Complex E, along the main feeder rail line and road to Tyura Tam, and terminates (45-54N 63-16E) 2.5 nm west of the launch area at Launch Complex A. There are two groups of buildings northwest of the rail and road construction termini; one consists of 4 buildings about 120 feet long, and the other of 11 buildings about 140 feet long. The purpose of the rail and road construction and the function of the buildings are undetermined. 25X1D

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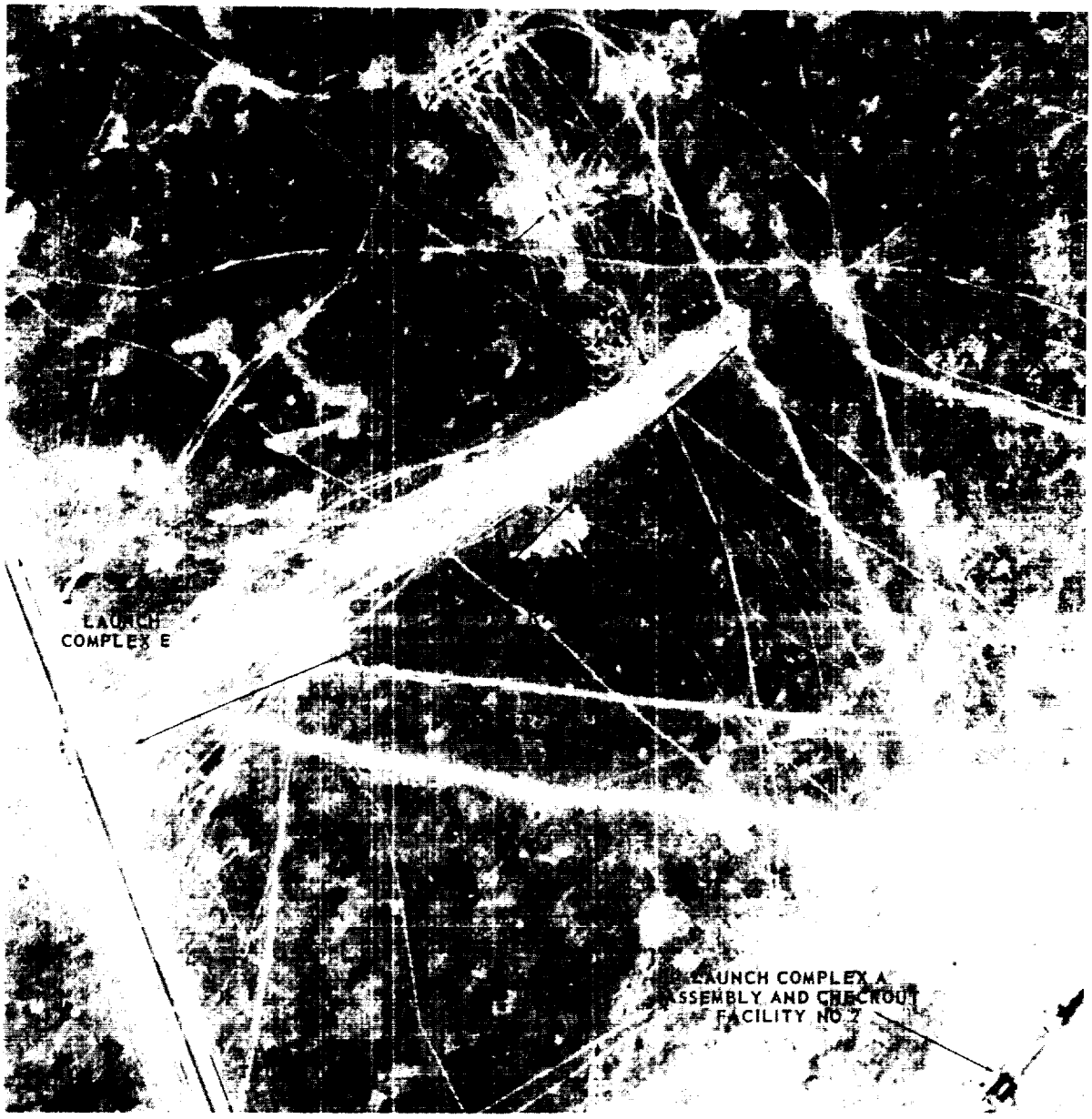

FIGURE 1. CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY WEST OF LAUNCH COMPLEX A, [redacted] 25X1D

REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

25X1D

[redacted]

MAPS OR CHARTS

DESPA. Series 1, Sheet NL 41-8, 1st ed, Jan 62 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

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2. CIA. PIC/JR-2/61, Launch Area "A", A Reanalysis of the Launching Structure, Missile Launching Complex, Tyura Tam, USSR, Mar 61 (TOP SECRET CHESS)

25X1D 3. NPIC. PIC/JR-8/61, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR [redacted] 25X1D
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25X1D 4. NPIC. R-59/62, Missile Test Center, Tyura Tam, USSR, Changes and Additions [redacted] 25X1D
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RELATED DOCUMENTS

NPIC. R-85/63, Launch Complex G, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, May 63 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

NPIC. R-172/63, Launch Complexes D, E, and F, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, Aug 63 (TOP SECRET CHESS RUFF)

NPIC. R-204/63, Launch Complexes C and H, Tyura Tam Missile Test Center, USSR, Aug 63 (TOP SECRET CHESS RUFF)

REQUIREMENTS

AF/2-63
OSI/R-143/63
OSI/R-150/63
C-S13-80,306

NPIC PROJECT

J-79/63 (partial answer)